

November 2005
NORTHERN COMMAND

SAFESTAT REPORT

Nevada Highway Patrol
Major Robert Wideman

Overview

Injury crashes in November decreased by 21.1%, fatal crashes decreased by 50% and property damage crashes increased by 15.1%. Fatal crashes dropped sharply from 7 last year a decrease of 71.4%. Total crashes increased slightly by 2.8% from last month and decreased 10.7% from last year.

Overall field enforcement was down 3.9% in November as compared to October but was up by 13.4% from the same time last year. DUI arrests as a result DUI involved crashes were down 5.3% compared to last month but up 28.6% from last year. DUI arrests prior to a crash were unchanged from last month.

The Northern Command Commercial Section completed 91 Level I inspections during the month of November. The Level I Inspection goals for the 05/06 Federal Fiscal year are 545. The Northern Command Commercial Enforcement Section has completed 31.15% of this annual goal.

During the month of November, 747 Level II/III commercial inspections were completed. The Level II/III Inspection goals for the 05/06 Federal Fiscal year are 5874. The Northern Command Commercial Enforcement Section has completed 22.86% of this annual goal.

The Northern Command airplane conducted a total of ten speed enforcement missions during November which resulted in a total of 286 violations. Included in this total was one traffic arrest for a particularly egregious reckless driver. This reckless driver had been called in as a reckless driver by the Fernley Justice of the Peace. The vehicle was located and followed for a distance of nine miles while a ground unit was attempting to overtake it. During this time, the vehicle committed numerous unsafe lane changes and following too close violations at speeds up to 110 mph in heavy commuter traffic. The driver was taken into custody without further incident.

The holiday shopping season is in full swing and troopers will pay particular attention to the heavy traffic flow resulting from shoppers at shopping centers throughout the command for possible traffic issues.

The Northern Command will continue to target the accident causing violations in the high crash areas during the high crash times in an attempt to reduce the number of crashes.

Content:

Crash Analysis
Field Enforcement
 Traffic
 Commercial
 Air Operations
Administrative Services
 Front Office
 Communications
 Public Information

Published
12-08-2005

NORTHERN COMMAND

CRASH ANALYSIS AND OVERVIEW

	November 2005		November 2004	% Change		October 2005	% Change
Total Crashes	408		457	-10.7%		397	2.8%
Property Crashes [including commercial vehicles]	305		322	-5.3%		265	15.1%
Injury Crashes [including commercial vehicles]	101		128	-21.1%		128	-21.1%
Fatal Crashes [including commercial vehicles]	2		7	-71.4%		4	-50.0%
DUI Crashes [DUI charged]	19		10	90.0%		19	0.0%
Total persons killed in fatal crashes	2		6	-66.7%		10	-80.0%
Total drivers killed without seatbelts	1		2	-50.0%		4	-75.0%
Total passengers killed without seatbelts	0		0	0.0%		0	0.0%
Total drivers killed with seatbelts	1		3	-66.7%		0	100.0%
Total passengers killed with seatbelts	0		3	-300.0%		1	-100.0%
Total persons killed - seatbelts not applicable	0		0	0.0%		5	-500.0%
Total number of commercial vehicle crashes	13		27	-51.9%		28	-53.6%
Property crashes involving commercial vehicles	8		16	-50.0%		25	-68.0%
Injury crashes involving commercial vehicle	5		10	-50.0%		3	66.7%
Fatal crashes involving commercial vehicle	0		1	-100.0%		0	0.0%

Percentage of fatal crashes to total crashes 0.5%

Percentage of DUI crashes to total crashes 4.7%

Percentage of persons killed *without* seatbelts to total persons killed 100.0%

Percentage of commercial vehicle crashes to total crashes 3.2%

CRASH ANALYSIS:

Overall crashes were up 2.8% this month compared to last month and 10.7% down from the same month last year. There was a sharp 21.1% decrease in injury crashes when comparing last month and 21.1% drop when comparing last year.

Continued road construction in the "Spaghetti Bowl", North McCarran/Clear Acre area and in Carson City continue to create significant traffic problems in the Reno and Carson City areas with major congestion occurring during the commuter traffic hours.

Fatal crashes dropped from 4 last month to only 2 this month, a drop of 50%. When comparing last year to this year the drop was 71.4% or from 7 crashes to 2 crashes.

FIELD ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

[Analysis and review of current reporting period, versus same period in previous fiscal year, versus previous reporting period]

	November 2005		November 2004	% Change		October 2005	% Change
DUI arrests from crashes **	18		14	28.6%		19	-5.3%
DUI arrests <i>prior</i> to crashes **	107		66	62.1%		107	0.0%
Other Arrests	416		303	37.3%		480	-13.3%
Total persons arrested (DUI included) **	200		156	28.2%		214	-6.5%
Speed violations	1899		1742	9.0%		2024	-6.2%
Hazardous moving violations	805		691	16.5%		840	-4.2%
Occupant restraint violations *	317		286	10.8%		359	-11.7%
Total violations [above violations included]	5447		4802	13.4%		5668	-3.9%
Commercial Enforcement							
Hazardous moving violations - citations/arrests	100		13	669.2%		47	112.8%
Other traffic violations - citations/arrests	101		23	339.1%		43	134.9%
Total safety inspections [level 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6]	843		536	57.3%		662	27.3%
Terminal inspections [level 5] CR only	0		1	-100.0%		0	0.0%
Total safety violations -- citation	341		233	46.4%		275	24.0%
Total safety violations -- repair order	2784		1278	117.8%		2247	23.9%
Total vehicles placed "Out of Service"	120		60	100.0%		127	-5.5%
Total drivers placed "Out of Service"	92		32	187.5%		52	76.9%
Total school buses inspected	42		108	-61.1%		97	-56.7%
Total school buses placed "Out of Service"	9		40	-77.5%		28	-67.9%
Total trucks weighed	382		79	383.5%		114	235.1%
Total overweight citations	62		5	1140.0%		31	100.0%
Total dyed fuel inspections	544		406	34.0%		354	53.7%
Total dyed fuel citations	0		0	0.0%		1	-100.0%

* Seat belt and child restraint

** Commercial Enforcement Activity Included

FIELD ENFORCEMENT:

Overall enforcement was down 3.9% overall but was up by 13.4% compared to the same time last year. All categories of enforcement were down from last month but all have increased when compared to last year.

COMMERCIAL ENFORCEMENT

As the command entered this new fiscal year, it prepared to meet or exceed the required goals and objectives as stated in the Commercial Vehicle Safety Plan, (CVSP). During the next few months, the Northern Command will maintain a high level of work performance in an effort to ensure it will have a good base as we enter the winter months.

In November, Commercial showed a positive increase in every category, with the exception of Dyed Fuel. The number of accidents investigated also decreased. In our CVSP goals, we are ahead in almost every category, with the exception of interstate weights and Level II/III hazard material and motor coach inspections.

Finally, the scale teams will be used throughout the command in an effort to locate those vehicles operating in excess of the allowable weight or unsafely. This command received new Haenni scales and training in their use during the second week of November. These new scales will assist the scale teams with overweight enforcement. There were some basic software problems in all three regions, but these problems have been eliminated.

Upcoming Events:

Throughout this fiscal year the Northern Command Commercial Enforcement Section will continue with its Strike-Force efforts in the Southern Command Las Vegas area. The Northern Command sent 4 commercial personnel to Las Vegas this past month. These efforts are designed to assist in the accident reduction of commercial motor vehicles traveling into the Las Vegas area. The morning of the travel day Las Vegas reported a fatality in this particular area involving a commercial vehicle.

The Commercial Enforcement Section Commercial Vehicle Safety Inspectors (CVSI) finished their fall inspections of school buses. These inspections were completed one month prior to deadline. We will continue to monitor the out-of-service ratio currently being seen in the Washoe County School District. The CVSI activities will now be aimed towards tow trucks and completing Compliance Reviews (CR).

The Commercial Enforcement Section will again be assisting the Las Vegas Command in their New Year's Eve enforcement and anti-terrorism program. The final New Year's Eve Operations Plan has not been finalized but everyone has been informed of their proposed site location and their duties.

There will be a North American Standards (NAS) Part "A" and Part "B" class held at the Reno NHP office in January and February of 2006. Five traffic personnel will be attending the Part "A" class. Reno Police Department could possibly be sending some of its personnel to these classes as well.

AIR OPERATIONS

The Northern Command aircraft flew a total of 71.8 hours during November. 13 speed enforcement missions were scheduled; ten were flown and three were cancelled due to inclement weather. Six missions were flown in the Northern Command; four were flown in the Central Command.

Total Enforcement activity was 286 violations. Included in this total was one traffic arrest for a particularly egregious reckless driver. This had been called in as a reckless driver by the Fernley Justice of the Peace. The vehicle was located and followed for a distance of nine miles while a ground unit was attempting to overtake it. During this time, the vehicle committed numerous unsafe lane change and following too close violations at speeds up to 110 mph in heavy commuter traffic.

Three in state prisoner transports were conducted during November.

On November 12, Air 1 participated in Operation Night Owl. This was a night search and rescue training exercise sponsored by the Civil Air Patrol. Our aircraft was one of 8 aircraft participating; we were successful in locating all three of our targets.

The aircraft was dispatched to assist during a pursuit on the 19th on US 95 alternate. Just as the aircraft was arriving overhead, the pursuit ended and the suspect was taken into custody without incident.

Our newest aircraft, N7GG was operated 3.6 hours during the month. Operations consisted of flight training for the Northern Command Pilot with a flight instructor. The plane was delivered to Chaparral Aviation at the Minden airport on November 15th for the installation of the 800 and 150 MHz radios.

Below is a comparative summary of N111HP flight operations in the Northern and Central commands for the month of October, 2005.

Total Hours Flown	2005	2004	Change
Time over sites.....	28.1	15.3	83 %
Time enroute to sites.....	20.3	10.1	100%
Prisoner Transports..... (3)	16.9	(2) 12.4	36 %
Training.....	4.6		100%
Maintenance.....	.9	1.1	- 18%
Pursuit.....	1.0		
Miscellaneous.....		1.6	
Total:	71.8	40.5	77 %
Enforcement Missions Flown:	10	6	67 %
Total Enforcement Activity:	286	170	68 %
Activity Per Flight Hour:	10.2	9.3	10%

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

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FRONT OFFICE	November 2005	November 2004	% Change	October 2005	% Change
Accident Reports Processed	402	362	11.05%	465	-13.55%
Arrest Reports Processed	173	173	0%	195	-11.28%
Incident / Officer Reports Processed	14	9	55.55%	18	-22.22%
Office Accident Reports Taken	34			15	126.67%
COURT / WARRANT					
Warrants Received	505	668	-24.40%	500	1.00%
Warrants Entered	136	197	-30.96%	502	-72.91%
Warrants Cleared	424	656	-35.36%	550	-22.91%
Warrants Validated	174	502	-65.34%	213	-18.31%
Citations Processed	3735			3816	-2.12%
COMMUNICATION CENTER	November 2005	November 2004	% Change	October 2005	% Change
Radio Transmissions	102678	86362	+18.89%	127131	-19.23%
CAD incidents	13049	8909	+46.47%	15711	-16.94%

FRONT OFFICE

Three Administrative Assistant II positions are still currently vacant. The command film clerk reports a decrease of 30% in the number of photos being processed. Overall sick leave increased this period while compensatory leave decreased by 75%. Annual leave also decreased by 12.5%. With this, overall hours worked only decreased by 0.50%. Work product remains similar to last reporting period as well as this same time last year, even with three vacant positions.

COURT WARRANTS

Regular citations processed decreased by 2%. Warrant entry is current through August. September, October, and November are in arrears for base entry. With the vacant AAIL position, this will continue to back up for at least one more month. Interviews for that vacancy are set for December 16, 2005, and we have at least three candidates who are willing to start the position in Reno, and move to Carson City when the new communication center is completed. With the vacancies and sick leave from one of the front office clerks being used, the AAIL working in warrants has been entirely in the front. Therefore, no backlog is currently being worked on.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Northern Command Communication center currently has two vacant Public Safety Dispatcher I and one Public Safety Dispatcher IV positions. However, with 3 personnel actively in training, the Center remains effectively down 6 positions. Interviews were conducted for the new positions and 5 applicants have reached the background phase.

Total work hours lost decreased by 51.25% since last month primarily due to a decrease in all areas of leave use. It decreased by 29.04% from the previous year due to a decrease in sick and holiday off time. Leave use has decreased primarily due to the use of flexible scheduling in conjunction with trainees being scheduled off rather than taking leave.

Compensatory overtime decreased by 47.75% when compared to last month. The decrease is primarily in the lack of personnel to claim time. Overtime as a whole increased by 24.52% when compared to the same period last year and decreased by 38.65% when compared to last month. The increase from last year is primarily due to the increased loss of personnel. The decrease over last month is primarily due to a reduction of leave time taken. The coverage of vacant positions accounted for 68% of the overtime followed by 8% for annual leave and 4% for sick leave.

Radio transmissions increased by 18.89% over this period last year and decreased 19.23% since last month. CAD incidents have increased by 46.47% over last year and decreased 16.94% since last month. The primary reason for the increase in transmissions is likely due to the new arrival of field personnel as well as increased radio use by allied agencies. The increase in incidents is primarily due to the increase in population reporting more and more information to DPS.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COORDINATOR

The public relations office was filled with numerous activities during the month of November. We started the month with personnel from Highway Patrol, Office of Traffic Safety and Kim Evans meeting with Chief Michael Poehlman from the Reno Police Department to discuss public service announcements regarding the reduction of alcohol and drug related crashes. We are awaiting feedback from the local advertising agency and Office of Traffic Safety before filming such announcements.

Law enforcement personnel from around the state met in Reno to discuss the Law Enforcement Torch Run and other activities with Special Olympics Nevada for calendar year 2006. Troopers also volunteered their time in uniform at the recent Special Olympics bowling tournament held in Reno. The Special Olympics is the only organization the International Association of Chiefs of Police refers to as their "charity of choice".

The Nevada Highway Patrol was recognized by the Hot August Nights committee with other local law enforcement agencies and received a check for \$2,500. The money is to be used to support our law enforcement memorial and related activities. The monies will most likely be used to assist the honor guard members with newer uniforms as we are the personnel that represent the state of Nevada locally and in Washington DC at the law enforcement memorials.

The PIEO was invited and attended the Pershing County High School career day in Lovelock on the 18th. Students had the opportunity to gain more knowledge and awareness of what the Department of Public Safety has to offer in multiple divisions of employment and career offers.

We are still continuing with the weekly radio show "Trooper Talk" on KDBD AM radio as well as two morning traffic reports on KUUB 94.5 FM Tuesday through Friday. We are continuing to work closely with News Channel 8 and provide the station with live interviews every Monday morning.

With the busy 4 day holiday weekend this month, we were expecting much more than usual traffic accident activity on southbound IR-580 near the Kietzke/S. Virginia off ramp. NDOT was contacted prior to the holiday and placed reader boards advising motorists of heavy traffic ahead and to use caution. These warning signs, coupled with the numerous television and print article references, most likely attributed to no accidents at that location. Historically, we have responded to numerous accidents on that section of highway and the assistance of the media surely curtailed our calls for service there this year.

With winter here in northern Nevada, that only means more interviews regarding safer driving in challenging conditions. Lastly, we are looking forward to a few events in December

by helping the Salvation Army in an effort to help our community with food and money drives.



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